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Miller- G

Project 3

Humans. There are many of us and every single one of us different than the last. And with their being so many of us, people see things differently and are willing to do tasks that others may never want to experience. In “Consider the Lobster” by David Foster Wallace, he explores the Maine Lobster Festival and describes his experiences there. Many if not all of his experiences were rather dreary and almost grotesque. The thousands of lobsters that are thrown into boiling hot water, the sweaty and cramped sitting areas, and the masses of protestors outside really turned Wallace’s stomach and then he came out with **this piece. When** we take a look at the bigger picture of this piece it comes down to what we expect of each other and how much we can ask of someone to do something. Because maybe you have no problem throwing a lobster head first into boiling water, but for some, myself included, we can’t bring ourselves to do that. Most of the time it is because of our morals and how we want our food prepared. For all the meat we eat at home everyday, people pick it up from the store and it’s already in a package ready to go and we never experience the slaughter of animals that we end up eating. **Society has put this lid over our eyes** and make it seem like this great and amazing place where animals are never slaughtered in front of our eyes and all the horrible practices that are ongoing for experiments and food are never heard of or seen unless someone posts a video of it online. And as a result to all of this, there are things that we are fine with doing and things we aren’t. There is a limit on how much we can ask of each other because there is a limit to our morals and beliefs about what we do and if we feel it is **right.**

Commented [MC1]: Consider splitting up the introduction into 2 parts. One can be where you introduce all of your sources because you did a really good job with Wallace’s piece and then in the second talk about your idea/argument. You could also do Wallace in one with some of the idea and then mention the two other articles in the other with your thesis statement.

Commented [MC2]: You could mention your other sources with this point because the pieces you choice tie into this idea. (Mortician hides death from world)

Commented [MC3]: Make sure you introduce all of the other articles in the introduction so then you do not have to do a lot of summarizing in the body paragraphs

When we ask people to do something, generally in our minds it goes to being asked if what the task is, is morally acceptable. For example, when we look at part of an article called “Animals Like Us” by Hal Herzog, he includes a story about Carolyn, who got a job at a small natural history museum, and became the caretaker of a manatee called Snooty. However, there becomes a problem when “When she and her husband would sneak off for a week or two of vacation, Snooty would get in a funk and quit eating.” This became a problem because now Carolyn had to choose between vacation or Snooty. There was a limit on how much time Carolyn wanted to stay away from Snooty because he was not eating without her and her morals and beliefs wouldn’t let her know that this animal was dying partially because of what she was doing.

Commented [MC4]: Kinda confusing topic sentence. Make sure you start off strong and with a point, not just stating what humans do. I would adjust the phrasing of it. Also it doesn’t exactly fix with the paragraph as a whole because it says when we ask people to do things and Carol made the decision for herself

Commented [MC5]: Fix the wording to make it less confusing. Also can you dive deeper into her emotions/morals regarding animals. Maybe counter argue her perspective with people who wouldn’t care if something happened to him or relate it to animals testing and the guys who couldn’t kill the rats(?)

In a podcast interview, Caitlin Doughty explains what her job as a mortician takes and what she experiences at times when going through her day working. When describing the emotional impact of her job, Doughty explains that “Ahh, this is the dust of a man who is no longer here. We are all mortal!” — if you did that every morning with your cup of coffee, while you were cremating your first body, you wouldn’t be able to do the work.” Especially in the presence of death, people are less willing to do things because when dealing with the emotional aspect of the job. Losing someone is not an easy task and everyone handles everything differently, but sometimes seeing someone you once knew and now they are gone. The last thing anyone wants is for their last memory of their family member to be of their body lifeless or even cremated. If someone wants you to push the button for them to be cremated is a little selfish in a way. The emotional burden that people can bear is a limit in this situation because the amount of courage and willingness you need to have in order to be able to deal with their body is extremely high. If you put that burden on someone to do, they might want to respect your decision but they

Commented [MC6]: Need a transition between these paragraphs. It is a bit choppy with out on there

Commented [MC7]: Compare that to her statements about how she is the last person with the body. Comparing the burden of the general public to hers gives a good contrast as to what some people are willing to do vs what some can’t. Need more quotes to make it solid argument

might do what is best for them to do. And sometimes because they can't bring themselves to do that, they come across this limit which is not high enough for them to push that button.

People have morals and sometimes those morals keep them from doing things that other people might be able to do. But in order to get things done, there has to be someone for every job. Maybe you are able to push the button to finish the **job of cremating** a loved one. But in order to really understand someone, you have to be able to understand what is going through their mind and know that there is a cut off point for what someone is willing to do for you. There is not a thing someone can say and that person will never do what you are asking even if you are the love of their life because emotions are the key factor here. Most people would not shoot a dog in the head if they knew they were dying from a disease like rabies and you can not casually walk up to someone and ask them to do that. It would hurt our minds and hearts too much which is the limit as to what they would do. **Going back to the lobster**, just as something as simple as asking them to kill the lobster right then and there by putting it in boiling water as it dies a painful death. Knowing this, some people can not do it and everyone has to think if they want something like that in their head as a memory for the **foreseeable future**.

Commented [MC8]: Can you include a quote from the mortician? You could mention her own personal struggles with her job and how she moves forward

Commented [MC9]: I like how you link the two different articles, but you do it very subtly. Include more quotes about each piece or mention the authors names to compare them. If you want to compare them in a different paragraph that works too because this could be a nice conclusion

Commented [MC10]: HI ROB!!!!
Overall I liked what you wrote but there are general thing you could improve. Mainly you need to work with your sources more indepth. You set good groundwork for them, but include more quotes from all of your sources and then make sure you compare them and then how they relate to Wallace's piece since that is our base paper. Like in your intro you do not mention any other article and then you just bring them up. Lay a foundation in the intro so you do not have to include a summary and instead can use more quotes and talk about your argument in the body paragraphs. Also make sure you cite your quotes please. Only other thing is reread to fix your phrasing because some parts were confusing.